LIBSENSE NATIONAL WORKSHOP

Building a National Framework for Open Research in Nigeria

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Developing a National Open Science Policy - *Model Open Science Policy for Nigeria*

Conrad A. Omonhinmin Ph.D

Co-ord., Open Access/Science

Director, Research, Innovation & Discovery @ Covenant.

Agenda

- About the Open Science Policy

- Rationale for the Policy

- Core Areas and Stakeholder for Implementation

- Closing Remarks

About the National Open Science Policy

About the National Open Science Policy

- Co-ordinated by a collaboration of local network partners including AULNU and ComDICT partners led by the CVCNU
  - Within the framework of the LIBSENSE Initiative from WACREN
  - With financial support from the FCDO, UK
- Gleaned from UNESCO Recommendations on Open Sciences with local expertise.

https://shorturl.at/imoNY

About the National Open Science Policy

Chapter One: *Introductory and definition of the concept of Open Science and situate it in Nigeria.*

Chapter Two: *Articulates the objectives, emphasising the creation of enabling environments for open science, with core values and guiding principles derived from the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science.*

Chapter Three: *Outlines the policy's priority areas.*

Chapter Four: *Outlines vital implementation arrangements and proposes implementation plan emphasises scalable governance, stakeholder engagement, and periodic reviews to adapt to evolving needs.*

About the National Open Science Policy

- **Recognise** scholarly achievement & excellence

- **Mobilise members** in the service of society

- Promote the conduct of **systematic & evidence-based studies** on issues of national importance

- Promote the development of an **indigenous system** of Nigerian research

- Promote **Openness** at all levels
  - Scholarly communications – Research
  - Open Education Resources (OER) - Pedagogy
  - Open and Interoperable repositories
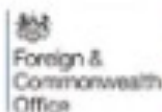 - Open Governance

Open Science Defined

... The vision is to create a dynamic ecosystem driven by open science, fostering innovation, and enhancing societal trust in research and development.

...The overarching goal is to instil within our research community a culture of openness, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing for the ultimate benefit of society.

...Core values and guiding principles derived from the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science underpin the policy.

Open Science Defined

"Open Science, a groundbreaking shift in research and innovation, diverges from conventional methods by prioritising collaboration, accessibility, and transparency across the entire scientific journey. This forward-looking approach aims to dismantle barriers, promoting the open exchange of data, methods, and results. Ultimately, it cultivates a more inclusive and dynamic scientific community. ***Open Science encompasses various movements, including open access to publications, research data, and collaborative efforts, all working together to accelerate discovery and champion a democratised approach to knowledge creation****."*

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Internationally Agreed Scope of Open Science

Rationale for the Policy

Open Data in a Big Data World

- Values of open data in emerging scientific culture of big data

- Need for an national frameworks that aligns with international best practices and yet accommodate local peculiarities

- Proposes comprehensive set of principles

- Provides framework & plan for Nigeria research ecosystem, science capacity mobilization initiative

- Proposes Open Science Policy for Nigeria

Value of a National Open Science Policy

- **Collective** view of Open Science activities
- Create **awareness, visibility, reputation**
- **Showcase** research from Nigeria
- **Contribute** to global knowledgebase
- **Identify** lack of data/opportunities/gaps
- **Build** a global mentality with a local relevance
- Identify **needs** e.g. skills development, infrastructure, policy formulation, etc.

Value of a National Open Science Policy

- Act as **instrument** for to harmonise local efforts and links with international open data and open science programmes and standards

- **Cross-use** data across disciplines/studies

- **Drive** relationships between researchers/institutions/data

- **Manage** Intellectual Property (IP) by extension

- **Increase** return on investment (re-use)

Value of a National Open Science Policy

- Make data more **discoverable**/visible (metadata)
- Encourage **collaboration** between scientific & private sectors, citizens
- Participate in **collective problem-solving**
- Allow verification of existing data, predict trends
- **Accelerate discovery** – speed is everything (e.g. outbreaks)
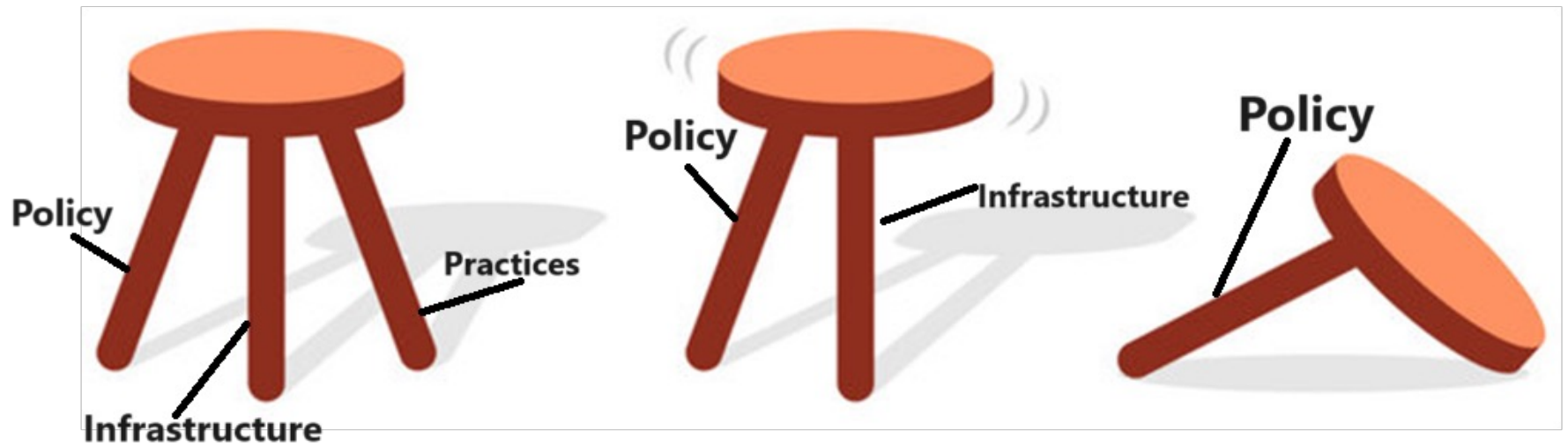- Attract **funders**

Core Areas & Key Stakeholders Implementation

Core Areas Implementation

- Promote development & adoption of **Open Science** and **data management policies**, principles, practices, standards at institutional level to align

- Evaluate national **infrastructure** status

- Address issues of **incentives**, best practice, benefits

- Foster **training & capacity building** activities

- Create an a **national publishing, indexing** platform

- Pursue massive **awareness** campaign

Core Areas Implementation

Key Stakeholders

- CVCNU, **AULNU,** ComDICT-NTI
- NRENs (Internet Service Providers for Education)
- TETFund, NUC, NCC
- FMST, FMED, FMCIDE
- UNESCO, WACREN/LIBSENSE
- Other

Proposed Work Packages

Proposed Work Packages

Establish Open Science Policy

Design Open Data Policies (National & Institutional)

Develop Incentives Frameworks

Develop Research Data Science Training

Develop Research Data Infrastructure Roadmap

Activities require low funding for coordination, secondment, contributions in kind and evaluation.

Activities require higher investment for coordination, co-design implemenatation and evaluation.

Funded Research Data Infrastructure Initiatives

Fund transdisciplinary research projects

Closing Remarks

… we envision a transformative journey for Nigerian academia marked by openness, collaboration, and a profound commitment to the betterment of society.

…. The success of this policy lies in the collective efforts of policymakers, institutions, researchers, and the wider community.

Closing Remarks

- Act Now and continue to collaborate– strength in diversity
- **Data the new "gold"** – predict trends
- Develop policies (OS, OA, Data, etc) to take a foothold (manage, & exploit) of this resource or we might face the "***crude oil albatross***"
- Tell our own story

Acknowledgments

- CVCNU
- WACREN/LIBSENSE
- AULNU
- ComDICT
- FCDO, UK
- UNESCO
- Covenant University

Thank you!